

NEWS OF WALLSTREET

Mystery of the Government Crop Report Puzzles Traders—Disappointment Causes Slight "Slump" on Stock Market.

New York, June 8.—A rather common explanation of the moderate decline in stock market prices to-day, most of which occurred in the last half hour of business, was that Wall street was "disappointed" over the figures of the June government crop report, published this afternoon, and that these figures in turn seemed to reflect some serious blunder, or at least some unexplained basis of calculation on the part of the government's computing authorities.

That the government's calculation was of a puny sort, was admitted. The condition of winter wheat on the first of the month was put at 80.4, as against 80.1 on May 1, a falling off that was entirely expected, and whose net result is a present estimate for the winter wheat crop of 479,000,000 bushels.

This still leaves the prospect for the total winter wheat harvest, acreage and all taken into account, considerably above the average for the time of year. In this at least no sensible person in Wall street can find ground for dismay.

But the mystery of the government's figures centered in those referring to the spring wheat crop. In June a year ago the area planted to spring wheat was put at 15,740,000 acres and the condition of the crop at 82.8, the amount of good for a crop of 312,000,000 bushels. This year the government's statisticians reported that on the 1st of June the area planted to spring wheat is 20,750,000 acres, or nearly 1,000,000 acres above that of last year, and that the condition of the crop is 94.8, nearly two points higher than a year ago, but that a yield, according to the government's estimate of but 244,000,000 bushels, as compared with 312,000,000 bushels, estimated twelve months previous.

For more than a year back the government in making these crop estimates has taken into account the probable amount of depreciation from the time of estimation to the time of actual harvest. A possible explanation of the puzzle is, of course, that the Washington people in making their general estimate this year assumed that the de-

preciation from now on, will be as great as it was last year; but last year, as everybody knows, this depreciation was extraordinary and abnormal, and if this method of computation was used it was probably improper.

In whatever way looked at it remains unexplained how the government could figure out to-day a spring wheat crop heavily below that of last year, when this year both acreage and conditions are decidedly above those of a year ago, so something is not quite understood.

A slight arrangement of the government's figures would seem to indicate a total wheat crop this year of in the neighborhood of 312,000,000 bushels, as against 263,000,000 bushels estimated by the Washington statistician.

It is also noted that climatic and general agricultural conditions in the specific wheat district continue to be decidedly favorable, and finally that the winter wheat crop is near "harvest" as it is considered practically "made."

Further, to-day the cotton market was again buoyed up better weather reports from the cotton belt.

As concerns the stock market the reactionary tendency that to-day manifested itself was doubtless due to no other cause than the normal amount of profit taking after the more or less sensational gains made yesterday, in many leading railway stocks.

Even as it was the St. Paul, Northern Pacific, Great Northern preferred, and other stocks, of similar exhibited strength and the general undertone of the market showed no signs of weakening. Whatever movement there was toward liquidation was, perhaps, assisted to some extent by the continued buying in the market by the Denver and Rio Grande performed alone, by reason of doubt expressed as to the permanence of the present dividend distribution upon the stock.

A cause for the recent strength shown by the shares of the various copper producing companies manifested itself to-day in the report of the copper production in this, although copper production may have increased over April, by \$7,000,000, domestic deliveries increased 12,188,000 pounds, with a net increase of but 446,000 pounds in stock on hand.

FINANCE AND REALTY

Quite as many classes of securities figured in yesterday's transactions as on Wednesday, but the volume of business was perceptibly less. Still, the market was by no means dull or inactive. Only one security went off, and that was a drop of nearly one point in Washington Gas.

Railway Stocks.

Washington Railway preferred maintained a steady price of 88% through the sale of 126 shares in small lots.

Banks & Stocks.

One block of ten shares of Commercial National Bank stock brought 185; two sales of National Savings and Trust were made at 230, and Union Savings went to 240.

Gas Stock.

Washington Gas opened at 85 with 1% point below the previous market, and after call went to 88%.

Bond Market.

Gas 5s sold at 110; Capital Traction at 112%; and Potomac Consolidated at par.

Leaves Treasury for Business.

Charles P. Montgomery, who has been chief of the customs division of the Treasury Department for many years, goes to take charge of the customs service of the American Sugar Refining Company. The appointment to the head of a service in which Mr. Montgomery had much to do with unearthing sugar frauds, is said to be a part of the work of reconstructing the company. The appointment of Mr. Montgomery meets with the approval of Sec'y McVeagh.

Bank Elects Trustees.

At the annual meeting of the shareholders of the East Washington Savings Bank, held Wednesday, the following trustees were elected for the ensuing year: Albert Carr, Lewis Fisher, W. C. Hagen, George F. Harris, Richard Kingman, W. A. Lynch, H. H. McKee, M. E. Marlow, Joseph H. Millan, Richard A. Pyles, Thomas W. Smith, A. T. Stuart, M. L. Weller, S. H. Walker, and John C. Yost.

Officers will be elected at the first meeting of the new board, Tuesday, June 12.

Sale of Galt Building.

The Galt Building, at 1307 Pennsylvania avenue, built fifty years ago and occupied by Galt Brothers in their jewelry business, was sold by auction and bid for \$80,500 for the Evening Star Newspaper.

AUCTION SALES.

G. G. SLOAN & CO., Inc., Auctioneers, 187 G. St.

THE UNDERRUNNED MILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION on the 23rd DAY OF JUNE, 1911, the hereinafter described property, the same being now in the possession of Green G. Staples as proprietor of the Galt Building, located at 1307 Pennsylvania Avenue, and his right and interest therein to be sold for unpaid hotel bills, the said property belonging to the following persons and consisting of: (1) Hotel, 1307 Pennsylvania Avenue, owned by Galt Brothers (V. G. Macleod, and J. Green), and (2) hotel and office building (Dr. G. H. Cross), O. G. G. Co., Inc., Auctioneers.

BENINGHORN, Auctioneer, 35-21 State at N.E.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE METROPOLITAN police department of the District of Columbia, Washington, June 1, 1911.—Notice is hereby given that I, will sell at public auction at the estate of Edward H. Judson, at 30½ State Street, N. W., m. the last, stolen, and abandoned property delivered to me by the Metropolitan police of the District of Columbia, and not called for by the owner, and which consists of the following personal property: clothing, clothing, and miscellaneous goods. A sketch in detail of the property to be sold will be found posted in the office of the chief of police, 10th and D Streets, N. W., D. C. (Chief (also Property) Galt, Metropolitan Police, D. C.)

PROPOSALS.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE District of Columbia, Washington, June 1, 1911.—Proposals will be received at the office until 2 o'clock p.m. on Friday, June 10, 1911, for furnishing and delivering 7 u.s. Washington, D. C. 0.000 weight and 500 one-inch brass combination locks, for safe and trunk cases, and for safe deposit boxes, to be used in connection with this office. A copy of proposal, and necessary information may be obtained from the Office of the Commissioners of the District of Columbia, 10th and D Streets, N. W., D. C. (John H. Ridgway, John W. Weston, William G. Johnson, Commissioners of the District of Columbia).

Proposed time for delivery of the property is on or before July 1, 1911, at 12 m. General time of

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